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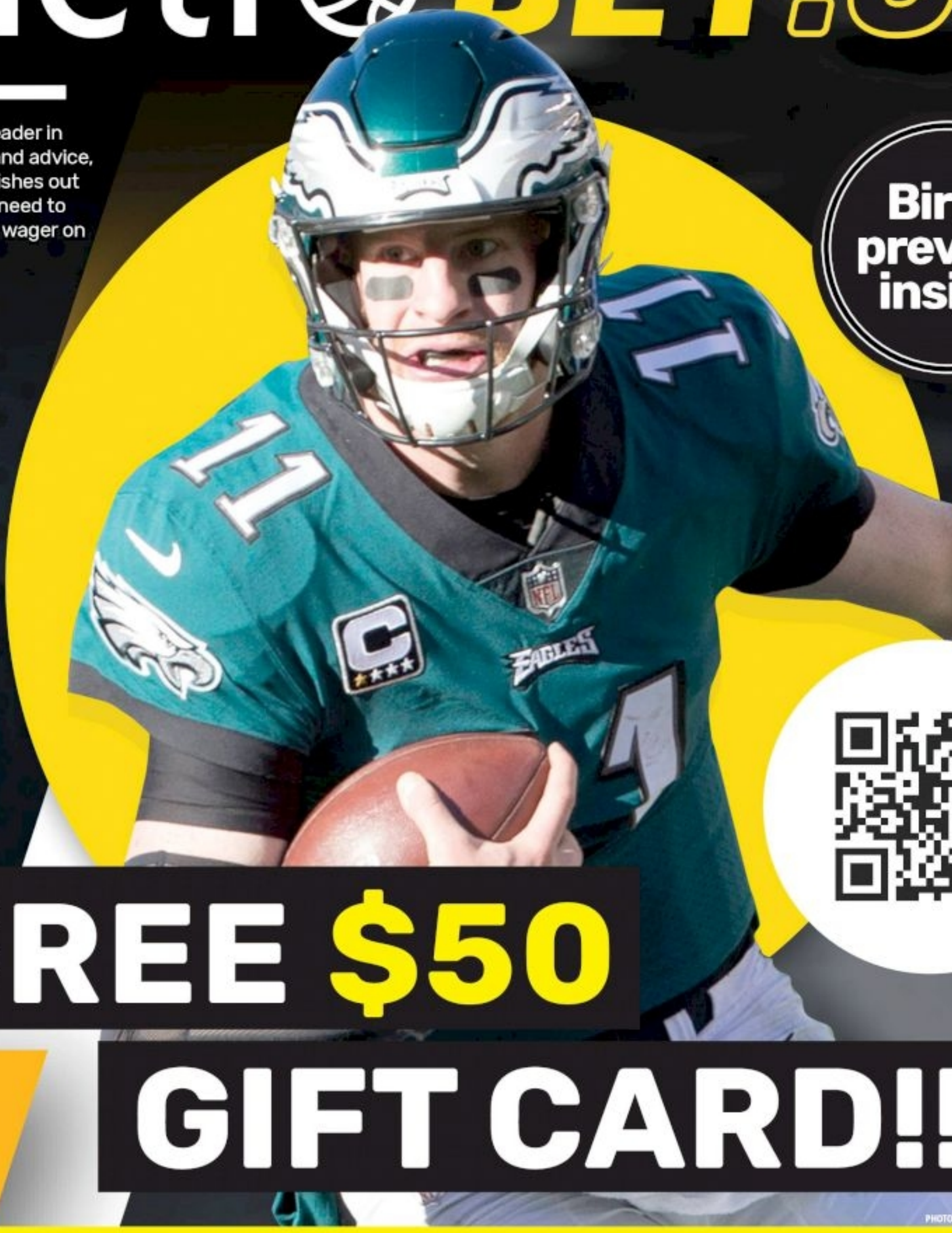
Philadelphia's leader in sports betting and advice, **metrobet.us** dishes out everything you need to know to make a wager on the Eagles.

Birds preview inside



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PA online sportsbook comparisons

All of the Big 3 online sportsbooks in PA are offering big money.

MATT BURKE

Matt Burke is a veteran sports journalist and the Founder and Editor in Chief of MetroBet.

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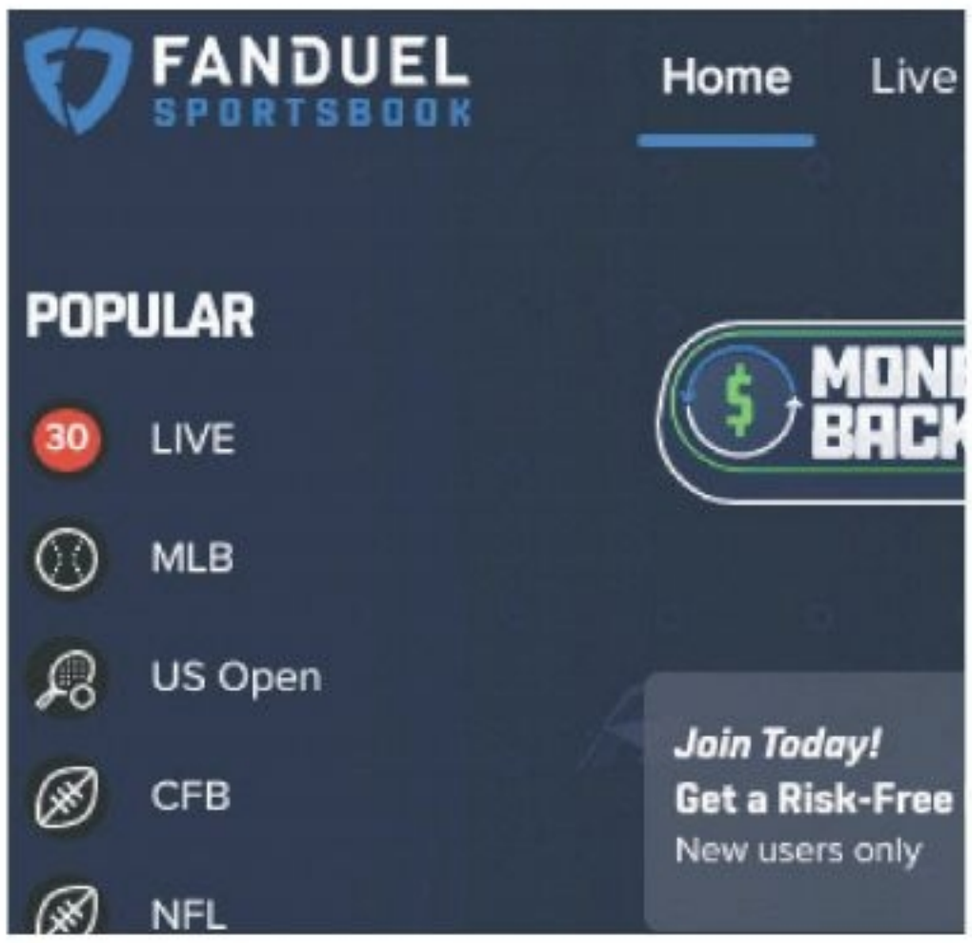
The odds are in the consumer's favor right now — at least in these early stages in PA — as there are no rules against signing up with multiple sportsbooks. Why not get all of the free money you can?!

Here is a look at the Big 3 in PA right now and what they're currently offering:



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You can take advantage of this exclusive offer through FanDuel and MetroBet by going to: **TinyURL.com/y665pabz**.

SugarHouse

SugarHouse is offering up to $250 in free deposit match bonus money, but what separates SH here is that you can get a free $50 VISA gift card by using our in-house MetroBet promo code. All you have to do is go to **MetroBet.us/Sugar** and enter promo code **METROBET**.

BetRivers

Rivers is the sister casino to SugarHouse (SugarHouse will actually be changing its name to Rivers later this year) and offers the same $250 match deposit bonus. They have a tremendous NFL pick'em contest running for football season called $500,000 Pennsylvania pick'em where they have staggered payouts. It's $125,000 for the first-place winner, $40,000 to second place and $20,000 to third. Even if you just finish in the top 50 of the contest, you'll still win $1,000. There's even a payout for "The Biggest Loser" as the person that has the most incorrect picks throughout the season will win $2,500. How's that for a deal? Be horrible, win money!

To get the free cash through BetRivers and MetroBet, go to **TinyURL.com/y6nb6q5o**.

If you maximized all of these options, you could make the easiest $1,050 of your life without even having to win one bet!

You can always make a withdrawal from your account at any time, too, if you go on a cold streak with your bets, or even if you come to the realization that sports betting just ain't your thing.

For instance, I recently opened an account at BetRivers through **TinyURL.com/y6nb6q5o**.

I initially deposited $50 and BetRivers matched my money by giving me a free $50. I had a total of $100 to play with, won a few $5 bets here, lost a few $5 bets there and eventually wound up with $90 in my account after a few weeks.

I had a rather large cellphone bill this month (friggin' data charges!) so I decided to cash out and use that free betting money to pay my phone bill. In essence, BetRivers paid for my stupidity of scrolling through Facebook at the beach!

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BIRDS OF PREY

High expectations await Carson Wentz and the Eagles in 2019. Will they find the right nest? Metro previews Philly's new season, which kicks off Sunday against Washington. 19-20

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The mix of suspense and humor in 'IT CHAPTER TWO'

The famous 2017 adaptation of Stephen King's novel "IT" comes to its conclusion with a sequel that is once again directed by Andy Muschietti and produced by Barbara Muschietti. Ahead of the grand premiere on Sept. 6, Metro chatted with both of them. CRISTINA URRUTIA A.

I would like to start with the cast selection. How did they choose the artists so well and how did you get them to behave in the same way?
Andy Muschietti (AM): The physical similarity was very important for me. But above all, for them to have the same energy, or parts of the personality and characteristics of these children. Those were the two most important things for me. And the truth is that I had the pleasure of working with my favorite actors. Jessica (Chastain) was the first one to enter, even before finishing Chapter 1, she was very excited about the project. Bill Hader, (James) McAvoy, James Ransone and the rest went through the casting.

One of the most disturbing scenes is when Beverly visits her old home in Derry and this creepy old woman appears. Tell us more about it.
AM: It is a scene that is born from the anticipation, construction, retention that becomes almost unbearable, until reaching an end point. The tension reaches an exaggerated point

Director Andy Muschietti and producer Barbara Muschietti.
GETTY

and in addition, there is a lot of humor. That mixture of suspense and humor always attracts me — and much more considering that the monster is a clown, who does the worst things with a hint of macabre humor. That's why when it freezes in the middle of a smile, you don't know what's wrong with it.

When we see Mrs. Kersh, at the end of the hall, while Beverly is reading the letter with a smile, that is one of the moments I like the most. You are really establishing a game of complicity with the audience.

Your movies prioritize the grotesque and explicit over traditional "jumpscare" (a technique used in horror movies intended to scare the audience by surprising them). Why did you choose that path?
AM: I like both. As you can see in the movie there is construction, tension, there is also jumpscare. But I also like the explicit. I like so much to hide and generate tension with something that is hidden.

With the previous movie we learned that Bill Skarsgard scared the children on the Pennywise set. Did something similar happen this time?
Barbara Muschietti (BM): I would say that it is really impressive to see him with the costume and makeup. Even when he tries to be friendly and be part of the group, when he has his makeup on and measures two meters... it's awesome, it's really awesome. We did not do it on purpose this time, because they are all adults and professional actors, but when he appears, everyone is mute. It is quite peculiar.

In addition, on the set, we have a black box where he prepares for the shooting. And when it opens everyone is silent. It really is an experience.

You have devoted yourself to horror movies. Is there anything that scares you?
AM: There are many things. I'm afraid of cockroaches a lot. That is a primitive fear that I have had since I was little. And a little more adult fears include the ones of death, loneliness and machismo.
BM: I don't like guns and violence. It really is something I can't get used to.

How complicated was it to incorporate comic elements into a movie that is mainly traditional horror?
AM: It's not complicated, it's actually a tool to make the balance. When you have a comic scenario, it helps you to reconnect with the protagonists. And, on the other hand, at the experience level, people relax with this humor. It is very difficult to maintain tension for a long time. People get tired and for the audience it is better to relax as soon as possible.

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YOUR WEEKEND STARTS NOW

GETTY

MAREN MORRIS
The popular songstress is hitting the stage at the Met Philadelphia venue for one night only this weekend. Morris will be playing some of the songs from her notable repertoire including "My Church," "The Bones," "I Could Use a Love Song," "Girl" and of course, "The Middle."
Sept. 7, 8 p.m., Met Philadelphia, 858 N. Broad St., $30-$85, themet-philly.com

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FOOD & DRINKS

BUTCHERY CLASS: WHOLE HOG BUTCHERY
Head to Primal Supply on East Passyunk to check out a whole-hog butchery class with Primal's own Heather Marold Thomason. The class will cover the whole anatomy of a hog and guests will also learn how to break down a side of pork into primals and cuts for cooking, plus other cutting and cooking techniques. Guests will also get to take home a few cuts of their own as well.
Sept. 7, 1:30-3:30 p.m., Primal Supply, 1538 E. Passyunk Ave., $125, primalsupplym-eats.com

ARTS & CULTURE

UPSTAIRS AT KHYBER
Old City's Southern-style hot spot eatery Khyber Pass Pub is kicking this month off right with the reopening of their second-floor bar and live performance venue, Upstairs at Khyber. This Friday will showcase a photographic retrospective of rock shows at Khyber Pass Pub from former bartender and photographer, Paul Havelin, plus many more fun events are on the horizon.
Sept. 6, 5-8 p.m., Khyber Pass Pub, 56 S. 2nd St., free, khy-berpasspub.com

FIRST FRIDAY
On the first Friday of each month, Old City's galleries, studios, shops and restaurants open their doors for First Friday, a unique and memorable exhibition of the neighborhood's vibrant arts scene. All of the galleries, studios, shops, bars and restaurants participating are offering drink specials, delicious food, live music and much more.
Sept. 6, 6-10 p.m., various locations, Old City, prices vary, oldcitydistrict.org

HEALTH & FITNESS

FALL FLYING FEST
Head to Philadelphia Flying Trapeze to partake in one of the most unique activities in the City of Brotherly Love. Guests can soar 25 feet up in the air on Philadelphia's only outdoor flying trapeze school this weekend during one of the two-hour classes being offered for anyone ages 6 and up. The Flying Fest kicks off this weekend and will run until Oct. 27 with lessons being weekdays 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays at 10 a.m. to noon, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Sept. 6-Oct. 27, Philadelphia Flying Trapeze, 6452 Greene St., $63, phillycircus.com

MÜTTER MUSEUM'S FREE HEALTH FAIR
Head to South Philly this weekend to check out the Mütter Museum's free health fair featuring free flu vaccinations; free health screenings; a literacy corner with book giveaways for children; information on Narcan training, breast cancer, nutrition, health insurance, and access to food and mental health services; and much more.
Sept. 7, 1-4 p.m., Mifflin Square Park, 6th and Ritner streets, free, muttermuseum.org

FAMILY

FREE MOVIE NIGHT AT SISTER CITIES PARK
Head to Sister Cities Park this weekend for a free movie night perfect for the whole family. This Friday, the park will be showing "Jumanji: Welcome to the Jungle" and the Sister Cities Café will offer kid-friendly meals, snacks and soft drinks, along with beer, wine and cocktails for visitors 21 and older. As a bonus, starting at 7 p.m., TD Bank will also be providing free popcorn.
Sept. 6, 7:30 p.m., Sister Cities Park, 210 N 18th St., free, centercityphila.org

SHOPPING
Phila Flea Market
Head to the largest outdoor flea market in the city this weekend right outside of the walls of the historic Eastern State Penitentiary, where over 150 vendors will be offering unique goods and one-of-a-kind buys all in one place.
Sept. 7, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., Eastern State Penitentiary, 2027 Fairmount Ave., philafleamar-kets.org MOLLY GIVEN

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Chris' Jazz Cafe celebrates 30 years with legendary jazz shows and food specials

Chef Mark DeNinno. PROVIDED

See internationally acclaimed bands and try their "time capsule" dinner menu in September.
MADELINE PRESLAND

When Mark DeNinno became the chef and owner of Chris' Jazz Cafe two decades ago, he knew he wanted to put the music first.

The club and restaurant celebrates turning 30 this month by honoring the past, present and future with both music and food. Their lineup of acts in September includes musicians who have played at the club for years and one of their biggest acts to date. Philly's own Grammy-nominated jazz pianist Orrin Evans will perform with his quintet Sept. 13-14 and legendary group The Hot Sardines will play two rare, intimate shows at the end of the month. The Cafe wouldn't be the jazz destination it is today without DeNinno's decision to knock down some walls.

Back in the day, musicians stood in a corner to play shows in front of smaller audiences. After a conversation with his staff in April 2005, DeNinno decided that Chris' Jazz Cafe would officially be a jazz club. But in order to transform the music experience and book bigger acts, they needed a stage.

"The weekend that we built our stage is a great memory," says DeNinno. "I remember the first act playing on that stage and being so proud. Now that we've been in business for 30 years and doing 500 shows a year, we get national and international acts that want to play our club."

> **"Our goal is to make the artists feel like they're coming home. We always say that we need to feed their souls so they can really play."**
> Chef Mark DeNinno

In addition to the music lineup, DeNinno is commemorating the Cafe's transformation over the years with "time capsule" dinner specials including Southern braised shortribs with Parisian gnocchi ($24) and a lamb Bolognese with pappardelle ($24). DeNinno is known for cooking musicians' favorite meals, and there's a reason for it.

"Our goal is to make the artists feel like they're coming home," he says. "We always say that we need to feed their souls so they can really play."

Honoring the cafe's musical legacy includes opening their doors to a couple of Philly buskers and celebrating fans. DeNinno has invited a couple of musicians who usually perform on sidewalks in Center City to play lunchtime shows on Tuesdays and Wednesdays this month. One lucky jazz fan will win free entry to shows at the Cafe for an entire year through their "Golden Ticket" social media contest.

To see all show times and more information on the other anniversary celebrations, visit chrisjazzcafe.com.

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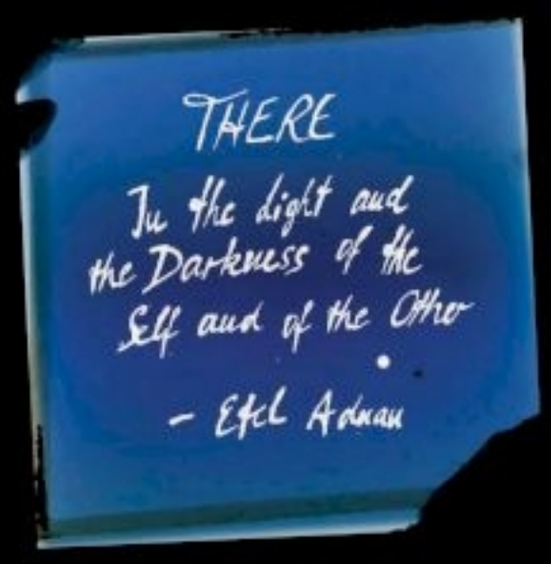

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James Ransone on 'winning the Powerball' with his role in *IT Chapter Two*'

We spoke with the actor ahead of the film's release this weekend.

PAT KING

James Ransone is having a hard time taking praise for these days. But, while looking at some of the projects he has been attached to lately, one could argue that the man is having a "moment" after years of work in the industry. After some scene-stealing moments in recent indie films like Sean Baker's "Tangerine," Ti West's Western "In the Valley of Violence," and even acting alongside Sean Penn in the Hulu series "The First," Ransone will be co-starring in one of the biggest films of the year, "IT Chapter Two." "My version of my own horror movie is to watch myself. It's so difficult to watch myself in anything," Ransone tells me one afternoon as I catch up with him over the phone. "I just learned that it's better to go, 'Oh, I'm gonna go to Barnes and Noble while this premiere is happening!"

This kind of humility from the actor permeates throughout our conversation, but don't let it fool you. Ransone has been consistently putting in the work, and while in the past it may have only been evidenced on smaller screens, his role as Eddie in the conclusion of Andy Muchetti's re-telling of the Stephen King classic stands out amongst the film's stacked cast.

As he remembers, Ransone got the opportunity for the role by chance and has since been blown away by rabid fans clamoring to see the new film this weekend.

"I kind of live under a rock a little bit," Ransone says with a laugh, "So I had no idea of the size of the phenomenon it would be. In another way, I feel like I won the Powerball. There's a lot of really talented and well-qualified actors that could have or should have played my part as much as I should have. It's luck at a certain point."

Ransone joins fellow cast members James McAvoy, Jessica Chastain, Jay Ryan, Isaiah Mustafa and Bill Hader to play the older versions of the Losers Club from the first film. For Ransone, trying to add to the original portrayal of Eddie (played to wound-up hypochondriac perfection by Jack Dylan Grazer) was both a challenge and a thrill to try and pull off.

"If you go back and watch the first one, I have never seen a kid talk that fast or react that fast and it's totally natural," he says of his admiration of the young actor. "He's a weird freak phenom. That stuff is not teachable… He's like a machine gun! I just remember being really impressed by his speed."

While getting into the role of Eddie was only part of the battle, Ransone felt the need to step up his game with the high pedigree of actors included in this ensemble cast. "The first couple of days, I felt really freaked out because McAvoy and Chastain are

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Bill Hader and James Ransome in "IT Chapter Two." BROOKE PALMER

really highly trained classical actors. They're really good at that stuff and do their homework. I had gone to school for theater but eventually switched for fine art. I'm more of a fine art person, or at least am attracted to the visual arts in a different way. I look at film differently than a performative aspect… but I was really scared because Andy Muchetti relied on me to do all of this improve with Bill Hader. Which I'm very happy to do, because that's what I did in Sean Baker's movies. But we would shoot that stuff in, like, a living room on an iPhone. The pressure is different because it was like, here's this guy who was on "SNL." That was the part that made it really good for me because I got to see how real comedians work in terms of on-the-fly stuff. I was really fortunate to work with Bill as someone who came from a sketch background because their whole thing is dependent on the entire joke working. It wasn't like he was trying to step over me or overshadow me."

Ransone more than meets the challenge of this role, as Eddie's journey is one of the more touching story lines of the film and his scenes with Hader provide the biggest laughs of the film. So, why is he taken back my compliment when I tell him that he seems to be on a creative tear as of late?

"What's really weird about you saying that is that I just had a baby this year," Ransone explains. "What's really cool about having him has freed me up to do stuff that I really enjoy doing creatively. I'm doing all sorts of weird stuff, man. I'm tie-dying all of these sweatsuits now and people are asking me to do brand collaborations. I'm drawing again. I feel like I'm not in a creative tear in acting, but I'm sure I'll get another job from this. I feel like I've kind of relaxed into my own. Ninety percent of that has to do with me having a kid. It's weird, I don't feel precious about it anymore. I just want to have fun doing it and whatever the results are, I have no control over anyways."

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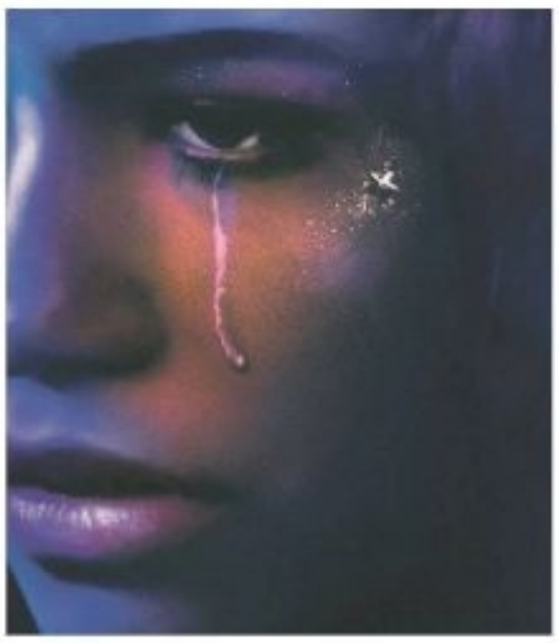
4 SERIES AND MOVIES TO SET 2019 TRENDS



"EUPHORIA"

The HBO series continues along the lines of some of its predecessors, as, for example, "Skins," focusing on the many nuances of its characters. Thinking about that, its costume designer Heidi Bivens, was inspired by the aesthetics of Gen Z and nostalgia, combined with Instagram and several underground designers. That is why "Euphoria"'s looks were highly celebrated and copied on the social networks.

The vintage mood and glitter of Rue's eyes (Zendaya) and the empowered looks that Kat (Barbie Ferreira) begins to use to explore her sexuality through corsets, chokers, cold eye makeup and red lips ... This has also been quite inspiring for those who put on makeup like her and have already begun to see Ferreira as a style icon. In fact, she has already appeared in several fashion magazines.

"LITTLE WOMEN"

While the latest version of this classic was made in the '90s (with Kirsten Dunst as Amy and Winona Ryder as Jo, two icons of that time), the upcoming coming-of-age period drama will feature actors of new generation: Timothée Chalamet, Emma Watson and Saoirse Ronan. Yes, the 2019 film is about Victorian era in all its splendour, precisely the years of the American Civil War. This trend has been around for three years in the pieces of several fashion houses through boleros, lace and garments. In 2019, the "prairie dress" became common, which also reminds one of "Little House on the Prairie" and is used by Elle Fanning and Chloé Sevigny. Brands like Alexander McQueen and Batsheva are the most recent to have reinvented this dress, which is still stronger with the boleros than ever.

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"MALEFICENT 2"

The 2014 movie has inspired one of the most copied costumes and even a makeup line (in fact, it was MAC who did this). But apart from that, Alexandra Harper Millinery created a collection of hats in red, black and purple thanks to the film. Faliero Sarti, on the other hand, created a cashmere scarf inspired by Angelina Jolie's allure. Crow's Nest Jewels took out a capsule collection and Stella McCartney did the same with eight looks for children and babies.

"THE POLITICIAN"

Netflix's forthcoming premiere brings, without a doubt, all the kitsch and imposted splendor of a Ryan Murphy series. One of its stars is Lucy Boynton (the 25-year-old who played Mary Austin, Freddie Mercury's girlfriend in "Bohemian Rhapsody") who on the screen becomes one of those upper-class girls with a superb sense of fashion that Murphy creates so well (remember Emma Roberts in "Scream Queens"). Lucy is a fashion icon by herself. The Cut magazine made a very hyperbolic and dramatic editorial featuring all the glamour of the '60s.

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What to check out this weekend at *Fringe Festival*

The 17-day arts extravaganza kicks off this weekend.

MOLLY GIVEN

Nichole Canuso will perform "Sneakers." KATE RAINES

Philadelphia is a city full of culture, artistic expression and passion. Every year, FringeArts, the city's premier establishment for contemporary performances, streamlines all of those attributes to produce a 17-day extravaganza featuring 1,000 curated and independently produced performances — the Fringe Festival. The annual event highlights the incredible talent the City of Brotherly Love exemplifies in an interactive and highly personal way. This weekend kicks off the spirited festival, and Metro has the scoop on which shows you should be checking out.

"Superterranean"
The world premiere performance comes from the highly acclaimed Pig Iron Theatre Company and award-winning designer Mimi Lien. "Superterranean" takes a closer look at Lien's fascinations with urban infrastructure as well as the human body's place within it. Nine performers will showcase Lien's vision through visual demonstrations and ultimately help audiences feel connected to awe-inspiring infrastructures that we see daily.

Sept. 5-15, times vary, 2300 Arena, 2300 South Swanson St., $2-$45

"Skein of Heart"
"Skein of Heart" is one of Fringe's highly interactive showcases and comes from Fringe Festival regular, JUNK. This multi-sensory, diabolical indoor maze brings guests into a magical and mysterious labyrinth featuring performances and musical homages. It's truly the perfect exhibit for anyone who is still a '70s rocker at heart. According to the website, guests should be warned that those who venture through the maze inevitably leave a piece of their heart within its metal walls, twisting and turning and pulsating to the beat of a cryptic hard-rock love ballad. "Skein of Heart" features stair climbing, fog machines, strobe lights and music; it may not be suitable for all audiences.
Sept. 5-8, 12-15 and 19-21, times vary, JUNK, 2040 Christian St., $30-$35

"Much to Do, Much to Fix"
This new showcase from Wings of Paper and writer-director John Cambridge will certainly move you — partially because audiences are on a moving platform, but mostly because the show explores the production of electricity, apathy and love. "Much to Do, Much to Fix" will highlight the connection between the land of the gods and a few special humans. The performance takes place in a fixed-up warehouse and is BYO; late admission will not be allowed.

Sept. 5-8, 12-13, 15-16 and 19-22, times vary, 5200 Unruh Ave., $15

"Operation: Wawa Road Trip"
Tribe of Fools' latest Fringe feat brings a close-to-home feel to the festival. "Operation: Wawa Road Trip" follows the story of Lee and Joey as they embark on a road trip from Dayton to Philadelphia to scatter their recently-passed father's ashes in a meaningful place: a Wawa parking lot. According to the website, the siblings' journey turns out to be quite eventful with Dungeons & Dragons, sibling rivalry, rest stops, tunnel wizards, soda cave wisdom and a disgusting hoagie legacy that must be upheld.
Sept. 5-9, 12-16 and 19-21, times vary, Pro-

Superterranean
Sept 5–15
2300 Arena
A world premiere by Pig Iron Theatre Company and Mimi Lien exploring urban infrastructure and the human body's place within it.

Úumbal: Nomadic Choreography for Inhabitants
Sept 7, 13 +14
S 5th St & St. Michael Dr.
A free ambulatory dance performance through the streets of South Philly.

FRINGEARTS
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2019 FRINGE

"Operation: Wawa Road Trip." TERRY BRENNAN

scenium Theatre at The Drake, 302 South Hicks St., $15-$25

"Úumbal: Nomadic Choreography for Inhabitants"
This incredible and free dance showcase highlights an ambulatory dance performance created by the people of the city and is enacted by residents representing its diverse population. "Úumbal" was created by choreographer Mariana Arteaga after the 2014 incident where 43 students disappeared from Ayotzinapa, Mexico. After the government repressed protests to the incident, Arteaga responded by creating the communal performance. "Úumbal" truly gets up close and personal, being performed through a South Philly neighborhood from 5th Street between Shunk and Oregon to Mifflin Square.
September 7, 13 and 14, 5th Street between Shunk and Oregon to Mifflin Sq, free

Catch "Superterranean" at the Fringe Festival this year. JAUHIEN SASNOU

"bilialien"
"bilialien" is an evening filled with short works from Fringe Festival favorite Annie Wilson. "bilialien" dives into the world of keening, where in Celtic tradition is typically done over a dead body. According to the website, "bilialien" also explores celestial creatures tracing the periphery of the room, their time onstage and their own vision.
Sept. 6-10, times vary, Theatre Exile, 1340 S. 13th St., $20

"Sneakers"
Created and performed by Nichole Canuso in collaboration with director Suli Holum, "Sneakers" examines the forces of when someone departs your life and how they inevitably enter in a new way. "Sneakers" also examines the blueprint of our memories and why we house certain memories over others from the past, present, the false, the borrowed and the buried. "Sneakers" will take place after Annie Wilson's "bilialien."
Sept. 6-10, times vary, Theatre Exile, 1340 S. 13th St., $20

Fringe Festival Kickoff Party feat. The Illustrious Blacks

Friday, Sept 6
10:30pm at FringeArts

Celebrate opening weekend of the 2019 Fringe Festival with a free late night rager!

Late Night Snacks by The Bearded Ladies Cabaret

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Fun things to do in Philly this month

7

Marren Morris
Sept. 7

"The Middle" songstress is hitting the stage at the Met Philadelphia to perform for one night only in the City of Brotherly Love. **Sept. 7, 8 p.m., Met Philadelphia, 858 N. Broad St., $30-$85**

10

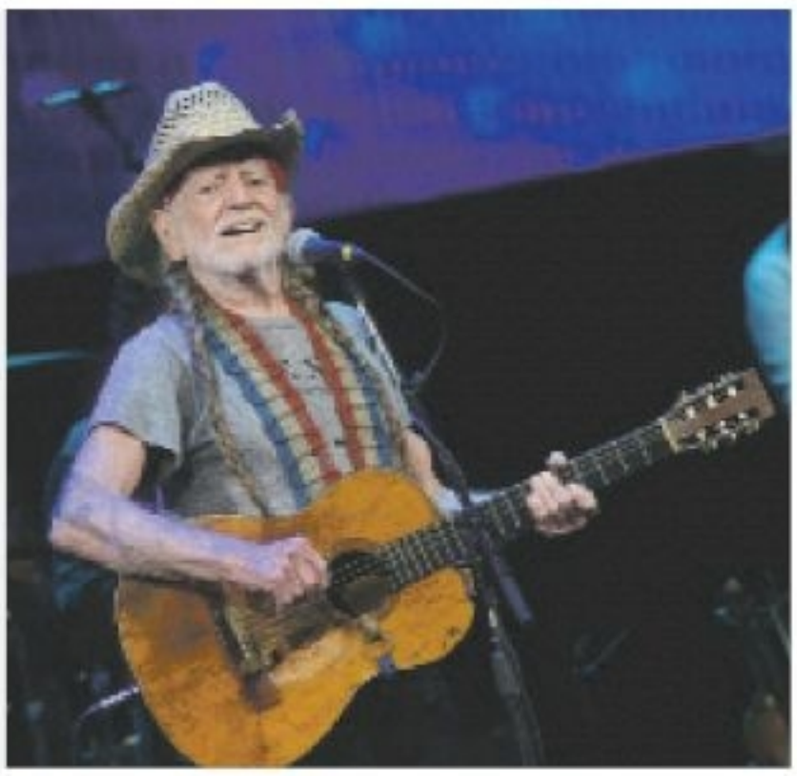
Trans Job Fair
Sept. 10

All trans, nonbinary and gender-nonconforming folks can head to this event highlighting equal economic opportunities for the trans community. **Sept. 10, 3-5 p.m., William Way Community Center, 1315 Spruce St.**

13

Willie Nelson
Sept. 13

The country music legend is coming to Philadelphia to perform some of his most notable hits including "Always on My Mind" and "Crazy." **Sept. 13, 4-6 p.m., The Mann Center, 5201 Parkside Ave., $33-$915**



13

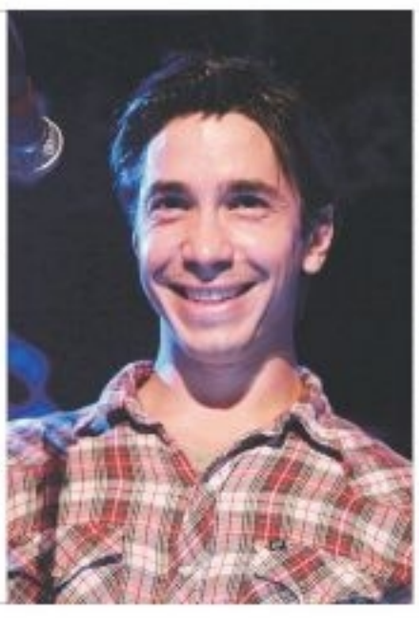
Crabfest
Sept. 13

Chestnut Hill is home to the crabbiest event of the season featuring live music, craft beer, wine specials and of course plenty of delicious crabs. **Sept. 13, 6-9 p.m., Top of the Hill Market & Cafe, 186 E. Evergreen Ave., free**

17

"Life Is Short" With Justin Long
Sept. 17

"Accepted" star Justin Long is coming to Philadelphia to have a discussion about life, what makes people happy and get deep with the audience. **Sept. 17, 3-5 p.m., William Way Community Center, 1315 Spruce St.**



ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

18

Lizzo
Sept. 18

The songstress has taken the music world by storm this year and will be performing her empowering and catchy songs at the Met Philadelphia. **Sept. 18, 8 p.m., Met Philadelphia, 858 N. Broad St., $60-$100**

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	7				5		3	
8			2	6				
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	5		1				8	
9			8	5		3	4	1
	8					9	2	5

MEDIUM

6			7					3
	5		3					1
	7	1		8	2			
	3	9						
5		7				8		6
						7	3	
			5	2		1	6	
7					4		2	
1					9			4

READER WRITE-INS:

PHILLY GRUMBLE

I'd like to know who is the idiot at SEPTA Regional Rail who is training the conductors about off-peak rules on TrailPass usage. Yesterday at around 6:20 p.m., I boarded an inbound R7 Trenton train at Torresdale using a Zone 2 TrailPass (Torresdale is Zone 3). According to SEPTA's website, a Zone 1 can be used between Center City and any station within the city limits (with the exception of Forrest Hills and Somerton) after 9:30 a.m. inbound and before 4:30 p.m. and after 7:30 p.m. outbound (it's on their website). Well, I boarded an inbound R7 Trenton at Torresdale at 6:20 yesterday with a Zone 2 TrailPass. Torresdale is within the city limits. The conductor told me that I needed a Zone 3, and I told him a Zone 1 is valid, and he said that a Zone 1 is valid, but not a Zone 2. He said, "It's a quirk in the fare structure." The last time I checked, a Zone 2 should be able to go anywhere a Zone 1 would. Hey SEPTA, I doubt that explanation would fly in a court of law.

— Joe, *Metro Philly reader*

ISTOCK

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Take a day trip, sign up for something that will expand your mind or kick back with someone who brings out the best in you and make today memorable.

Taurus Being thorough with your plans will eliminate backtracking. Spend time with someone who encourages you to rigorously prioritize your time. Maintain balance and integrity.

Gemini Sit tight and watch what unfolds. Getting involved too quickly in someone else's plans will turn out to be a costly misadventure that could ruin the relationship.

Cancer Make plans with a loved one and do what you can to improve the relationship. A promise you make will encourage a positive change to your living arrangements.

Leo Stick to what you enjoy doing and to the people whom you can trust to be reasonable and reliable. Don't let someone from your past disrupt your life.

Virgo Live up to your promises. Consistency on your part will play a role in the way others react to you and the support you receive. Moderation will be in your best interest.

Libra Take an educational trip. Visit a place that will give insight into something you'd like to try. Expand your interests and teach people close to you what you've learned.

Scorpio Don't let your past interfere with your future. Someone will mislead you if given a chance. Concentrate on what you know, and trust your instincts to push you in the right direction.

Sagittarius Simplicity and moderation are essential if you want to avoid being compelled to make an unnecessary purchase, pay for someone else's poor judgment or get involved in something you shouldn't.

Capricorn You'll thrive on change, new beginnings and investment in your ideas and skills. Embrace what life has to offer and include someone as eager as you to excel.

Aquarius Refuse to let anyone take advantage of you. Do your wheeling and dealing and look for opportunities that will help you enhance your qualifications and skills. Concentrate on advancement.

Pisces You'll thrive on excitement and adventure, but do your homework before you jump into something. Someone will lavishly embellish the facts to entice you; be careful.

EUGENIA LAST

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Philly safe injection site battle back in court

Trump-appointed U.S. attorney opposes nation's first-ever supervised site.

BECCA GLASSER-BAKER
Rebecca.Glasser@metro.us

A U.S. attorney was in court Thursday in an attempt to block the nation's first safe injection site from opening in Philadelphia.

A federal judge on Thursday was set to hear from U.S. Attorney William McSwain, who has filed a motion to stop the injection site from opening in the opioid-plagued Kensington neighborhood. The Trump-appointed attorney argues that the facility would worsen the city's drug problem, and says it violates federal drug laws.

But prominent Philadelphians, including Mayor Jim Kenney, are in support of the safe injection site, and on Thursday, a large protest erupted outside the courthouse. District Attorney Larry Krasney and Health Commissioner Dr. Tom Farley were present, along with advocates. A makeshift monument sat outside the courthouse memorializing the 1,116 Philadelphians who died from overdoses in 2018.

"I'm so proud to serve a city that SHOWS UP for our most vulnerable neighbors," Krasner said on Twitter Thursday. "A truly just & humane criminal justice system treats everyone as if they're somebody's child — because they are. Mourn the beloved dead. Fight like hell for the living."

He continued, "We are here to remind Donald Trump's DOJ that just as locally elected leaders have discretion on what laws to enforce & what constitutes a crime, so do they. Incarcerating people in crisis is a choice. Condemning the sick to die is a choice."

Founders of nonprofit Safehouse say they can help reduce overdose death by having medical supervisors oversee drug use. On-site drug treatment would be provided.

According to NBC, a safe injection site will allow drug users to use illegal drugs like heroin in a safe environment. Needles, alcohol swabs and other drug-related items used to inject the drugs are provided for free. They will also have life-saving equipment on-site.

Approximately 800 lives have been saved since Toronto opened up its first site in August 2017, according to reports. In July, Kenney and other leaders toured that facility.

McSwain, who was appointed by President Trump, is not the only official against the proposed injection site. It was reported by NBC that earlier this year, 7th District City Councilwoman María Quiñónes-Sánchez and state Rep. Ángel Cruz told outlets they were against the sites in the Kensington area. The judge was not expected to rule on the motion Thursday.

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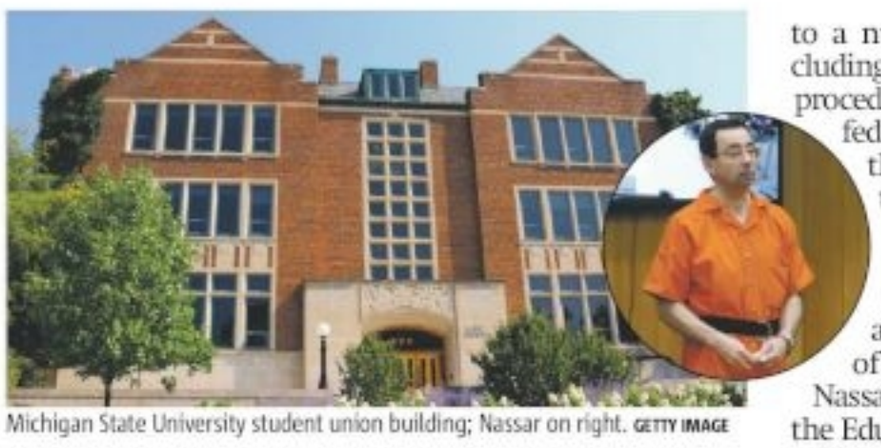
DOE slaps record fine on Michigan State University over Nassar abuse scandal

The U.S. Department of Education has imposed a record $4.5 million fine on Michigan State University for what it called a failure to protect students from sexual abuse and ordered the university to make changes.

The Education Department had launched two separate investigations into the university after the former sports doctor for the school and USA Gymnastics, Larry Nassar, was accused of sexual abuse by more than 350 women.

Nassar was sentenced in two different trials to 300 years in prison for having abused young female gymnasts. Prosecutors said he abused more than 265 people, many through his practice at Michigan State University.

"Michigan State University did not adequately respond to complaints against Dr. Nassar and (former university) Dean Strampel and thereby subjected students to a sexually hostile environment that denied them access to and the ability to benefit from their education," U.S. Education Secretary Betsy DeVos said in a call with reporters.



Michigan State University student union building; Nassar on right. GETTY IMAGE

The university had come under public fire for its handling of the Nassar case. Athletes had complained about Nassar since the 1990s but the school did not launch an investigation until 2014.

"Too many people in power knew about the behaviors and the complaints and yet the predators continued on the payroll and abused even more students," DeVos said.

Nassar's former boss, Strampel, was arrested in March 2018 and charged with criminal sexual misconduct. He was sentenced to a year in jail for neglect of duty and misconduct in office, according to media reports.

"Dr. Strampel is appealing his conviction. I cannot comment further until the appellate process has run its course," his lawyer, John Dakmak, wrote in an email.

The university agreed to a number of fixes, including an overhaul of its procedures for Title IX, the federal civil rights law that bars discrimination on the basis of sex, and potentially firing employees who failed to take action in the face of complaints about Nassar and Strampel, the Education Department said.

"The agreements with U.S. Department of Education further remind us that we failed survivors and our community ... While we have made some improvements, it's by no means sufficient or the end of the road," Samuel L. Stanley Jr., Michigan State University's current president, said in a statement.

He said he had accepted a provost's resignation over the Education Department's investigations and published a list of other university employees whose actions the school would be reviewing. REUTERS

BRIEF

Walgreens, CVS, Wegmans ask shoppers to not openly carry firearms; join Walmart

Walgreens Boots Alliance Inc., CVS Health Corp. and supermarket chain Wegmans Food Markets Inc. said on Thursday they would start asking customers to not openly carry firearms in their stores, joining Walmart Inc. and Kroger Co. in a change of gun policy following several deadly mass shootings in the United States.

The retailers are among a growing number of U.S. companies, such as Delta Air Lines and Bank of America, that are responding to calls for action to help curtail the rash of gun violence that has plagued the nation, risking backlash from powerful gun owners' groups as politicians consider options.

"We are joining other retailers in asking our customers to no longer openly carry firearms into our stores other than authorized law enforcement officials," Walgreens said in an emailed statement.

Earlier this week, Walmart and Kroger said they would ask shoppers to stop openly carrying firearms in stores across the United States. Walmart also said it would discontinue sales of ammunition for handguns and some assault-style rifles in U.S. stores, and called for action on gun safety after a string of mass shootings, including at Walmart stores in Texas and Mississippi.

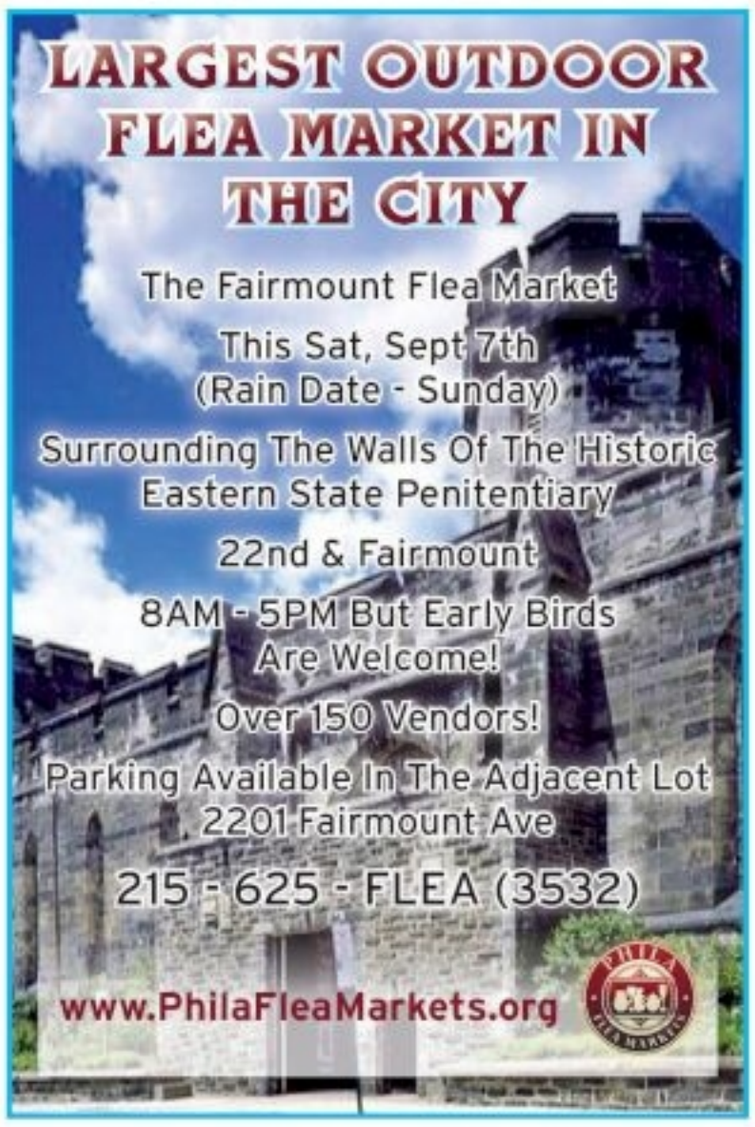
"There's nothing more important than the safety of our customers & employees," Wegmans said in a tweet on Thursday, adding that it "prefers" that customers not openly carry firearms into its stores.

CVS Health echoed the sentiment saying, "We join a growing chorus of businesses in requesting that our customers, other than authorized law enforcement personnel, do not bring firearms into our stores."

As the chains began making their announcements on Thursday, Shannon Watts, founder of gun-control advocacy group Moms Demand Action said, "We hope Senate leaders are watching this sea change."

"We'll take this momentum to Washington when Congress is back from recess on Monday."

The Democrat-controlled House of Representatives passed a bill intended to close loopholes around background checks for gun purchases and other measures in February, but it has not been taken up by the Republican-led Senate. REUTERS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MATT BURKE

Matt Burke is a veteran sports journalist and the Founder and Editor in Chief of MetroBet.

GETTY IMAGES

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NFL WEEK 1 SPREADS

WASHINGTON REDSKINS AT PHILADELPHIA EAGLES -10

ATLANTA FALCONS AT MINNESOTA VIKINGS -4

BALTIMORE RAVENS -7 AT MIAMI DOLPHINS

BUFFALO BILLS AT NEW YORK JETS -3

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS -3.5 AT JAX JAGUARS

LA RAMS -2.5 AT CAROLINA PANTHERS

TENNESSEE TITANS AT CLEVELAND BROWNS -5.5

CINCINNATI BENGALS AT SEATTLE SEAHAWKS -8.5

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS AT LA CHARGERS -6.5

DETROIT LIONS -2.5 AT ARIZONA CARDINALS

NEW YORK GIANTS -7.5 AT DALLAS COWBOYS

Before we get to the betting breakdown of the Eagles versus the Redskins, I should remind you about our limited-time offer to obtain a free $50 VISA gift card and up to $250 in risk-free bonus money at **MetroBet.us/Sugar.**

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The Eagles are going to be excellent this season. It's clear as day.

There's just as much talent on this roster as there was two years ago, and Carson Wentz is now nearly two years removed from his torn ACL (they say players don't fully look like themselves until around 18 months after the initial injury).

But there are some major betting red flags surrounding the massive 9.5 spread in the Birds' Week 1 matchup against the Redskins.

We have not seen Washington play a football game since Dec. 30 of last year, when they were stomped out by the Eagles, 24-0. And we have not seen the Eagles since the loss to the Saints this past January.

The rosters on both squads are quite different than they were nine months ago. The Redskins added QB Case Keenum, O-lineman Ereck Flowers, linebacker Jon Bostic, safety Landon Collins and drafted prized Mississippi State defensive end Montez Sweat. And the Eagles brought in Jordan Howard, Vinny Curry, DeSean Jackson, Zach Brown, Andrew Sendejo and drafted Andre Dillard and Miles Sanders.

We know that the Eagles were 10 points better than the Redskins last year (Philly won the season series 2-0, winning by at least 15 points each time), but you can't be positive that they are this season.

The Redskins are being pegged by many as the team most likely to be worst in the league. But it's far more likely that Washington will be mediocre this season, just as they've been the past four years. Here are the Redskins' records under Jay Gruden, dating back to 2015:

2015: 9-7
2016: 8-7
2017: 7-9
2018: 7-9

Not great by any stretch of the imagination, but not atrocious either. Washington is consistently average.

High spreads in September are always suspicious. Consider that last September the Vikings (everyone's preseason Super Bowl pick at the time), were 17-point favorites against the Bills at home last year. Buffalo not only beat that spread, but won the game outright.

One could also make the case that the Redskins defense is just as good as the Eagles' D. Washington allowed 22.4 points per game last season, while the Eagles were slightly better, giving up 21.8.

The Redskins defense has also done pretty well against Wentz in five career meetings. Washington has held the Eagles QB to an under 100.0 passer rating in four of the five games.

All told, I would stay away from the spread in this one, and instead bet the Under on the total, which is set at 45.5 right now at **MetroBet.us/Sugar.** It's not entirely fun to root for a low-scoring game, but remember that this is about winning money.

Washington's offense sucks, but the Redskins defense should be able to limit the Eagles to 28 points or under.

The play: $10 on Eagles–Redskins Under 45.5 points

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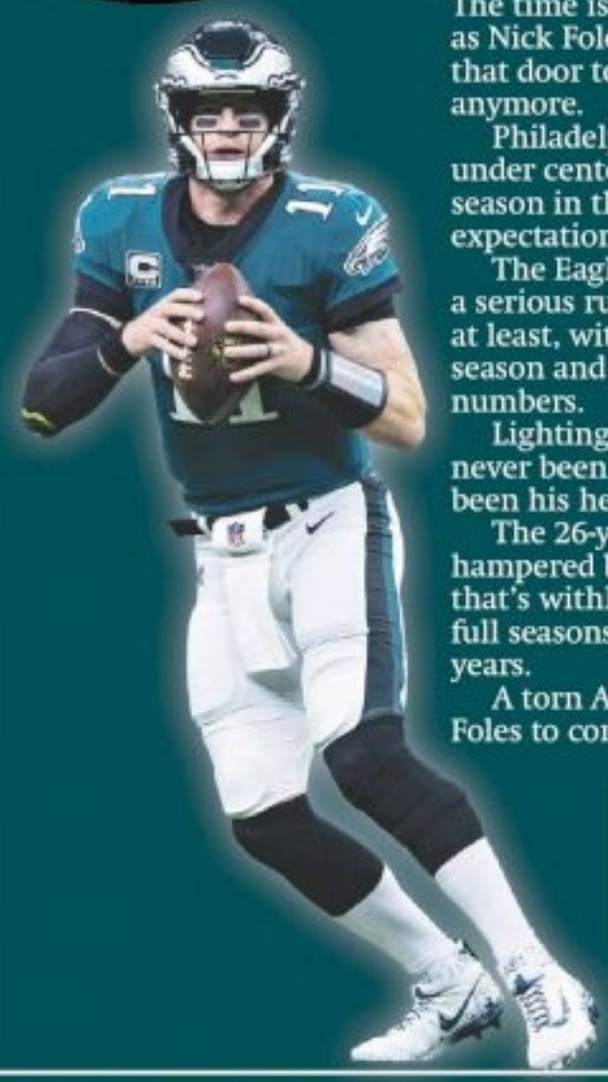
IS THIS THE YEAR IT ALL COMES TOGETHER FOR CARSON WENTZ?

METRO PREVIEWS THE 2019 PHILADELPHIA EAGLES



The time is now for Carson Wentz as Nick Foles isn't coming through that door to save the Eagles anymore.

Philadelphia's golden boy under center is entering his fourth season in the NFL under sky-high expectations.

The Eagles are expected to make a serious run at the NFC East title, at least, with Wentz playing a full season and putting up MVP-like numbers.

Lighting up the stat sheet has never been Wentz's problem. It's been his health.

The 26-year-old has been hampered by an injury history that's withheld him from playing full seasons in each of the past two years.

A torn ACL in 2017 prompted Foles to come in and lead the Eagles to their first-ever Super Bowl title.

Last year, following a disappointing 5-6 start, a back issue forced Foles back into the fold where he saved the franchise's season and led them back into the playoffs.

Foles is now off to Jacksonville as the leading man of the Jaguars, making Wentz's health that much more important.

When he's on the field, there's no denying his star power. He's posted 16-game averages of 4,061 yards with 28 touchdowns and 11 interceptions.

With Philadelphia's current cast of playmakers around him, he should have no problems meeting (or upping) those numbers.

He just needs to stay on the field.

2019 PROJECTED STATS

69%	4,350	32	15
COMPLETION%	YARDS	TOUCHDOWNS	INTERCEPTIONS

WHAT ABOUT WENTZ'S SUPPORTING STAFF?

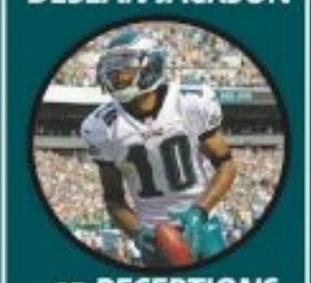
ZACH ERTZ

95 RECEPTIONS
975 YARDS
11 TOUCHDOWNS

ALSHON JEFFERY

65 RECEPTIONS
900 YARDS
6 TOUCHDOWNS

DESEAN JACKSON

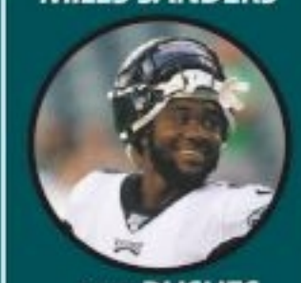


45 RECEPTIONS
725 YARDS
4 TOUCHDOWNS

JORDAN HOWARD

150 RUSHES
650 YARDS
6 TOUCHDOWNS

MILES SANDERS



155 RUSHES
675 YARDS
4 TOUCHDOWNS

2019 STRENGTH OF SCHEDULE	SCHEDULE RANK	METRO'S PREDICTED RECORD
.477	26th	11-5
WINNING% LAST YEAR	TOUGHEST SCHEDULE	1st in NFC EAST

EAGLES 2019 SCHEDULE

WEEK 1 vs. REDSKINS
SUNDAY, 1 PM ET, FOX

WEEK 2 @ FALCONS
9/15, 8:20 PM, NBC

WEEK 3 vs. LIONS
9/22, 1 PM, FOX

WEEK 4 @ PACKERS
9/26, 8:20 PM, FOX

WEEK 5 vs. JETS
10/6, 1 PM, CBS

WEEK 6 @ VIKINGS
10/13, 1 PM, FOX

WEEK 7 @ COWBOYS
10/20, 8:20 PM, NBC

WEEK 8 @ BILLS
10/27, 1 PM, FOX

WEEK 9 vs. BEARS
11/3, 1 PM, FOX

WEEK 10 BYE

WEEK 11 vs. PATRIOTS
11/17, 4:25 PM, CBS

WEEK 12 vs. SEAHAWKS
11/24, 8:20 PM, NBC

WEEK 13 @ DOLPHINS
12/1, 1 PM, FOX

WEEK 14 vs. GIANTS
12/9, 8:15 PM, ESPN

WEEK 15 @ REDSKINS
12/15, 1 PM, FOX

WEEK 16 vs. COWBOYS
12/22, 4:25 PM, FOX

WEEK 17 @ GIANTS
12/29, 1 PM, FOX

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EAGLES PROJECTED WEEK 1 DEPTH CHART

OFFENSE

WIDE RECEIVER
ALSHON JEFFERY
DESEAN JACKSON
NELSON AGHOLOR
JJ ARCEGA-WHITESIDE
MACK HOLLINS

LEFT TACKLE
JASON PETERS
ANDRE DILLARD

LEFT GUARD
ISAAC SEUMALO
MATT PRYOR

CENTER
JASON KELCE
NATE HERBIG

RIGHT GUARD
BRANDON BROOKS
HALAPOULIVAATI VAITAL

RIGHT TACKLE
LANE JOHNSON
JORDAN MALLATA

TIGHT END
ZACH ERTZ
DALLAS GOEDERT

RUNNING BACK
JORDAN HOWARD
MILES SANDERS

QUARTERBACK
CARSON WENTZ
NATE SUDFELD
JOSH MCCOWN

RUNNING BACK
DARREN SPROLES
COREY CLEMENT

DEFENSE

CORNERBACK
AVONTE MADDOX
RONALD DARBY
SIDNEY JONES
RASUL DOUGLAS

LEFT DEF. END
BRANDON GRAHAM
JOSH SWEAT
DAESHON HALL

NOSE TACKLE
MALIK JACKSON
FLETCHER COX
TIM JERNIGAN
HASSAN RIDGEWAY

RIGHT DEF. END
DEREK BARNETT
VINNY CURRY
SHAREEF MILLER

STRONG SAFETY
MALCOLM JENKINS
JOHNATHAN CYPRIEN
RUDY FORD

FREE SAFETY
RODNEY MCLEOD
ANDREW SENDEJO

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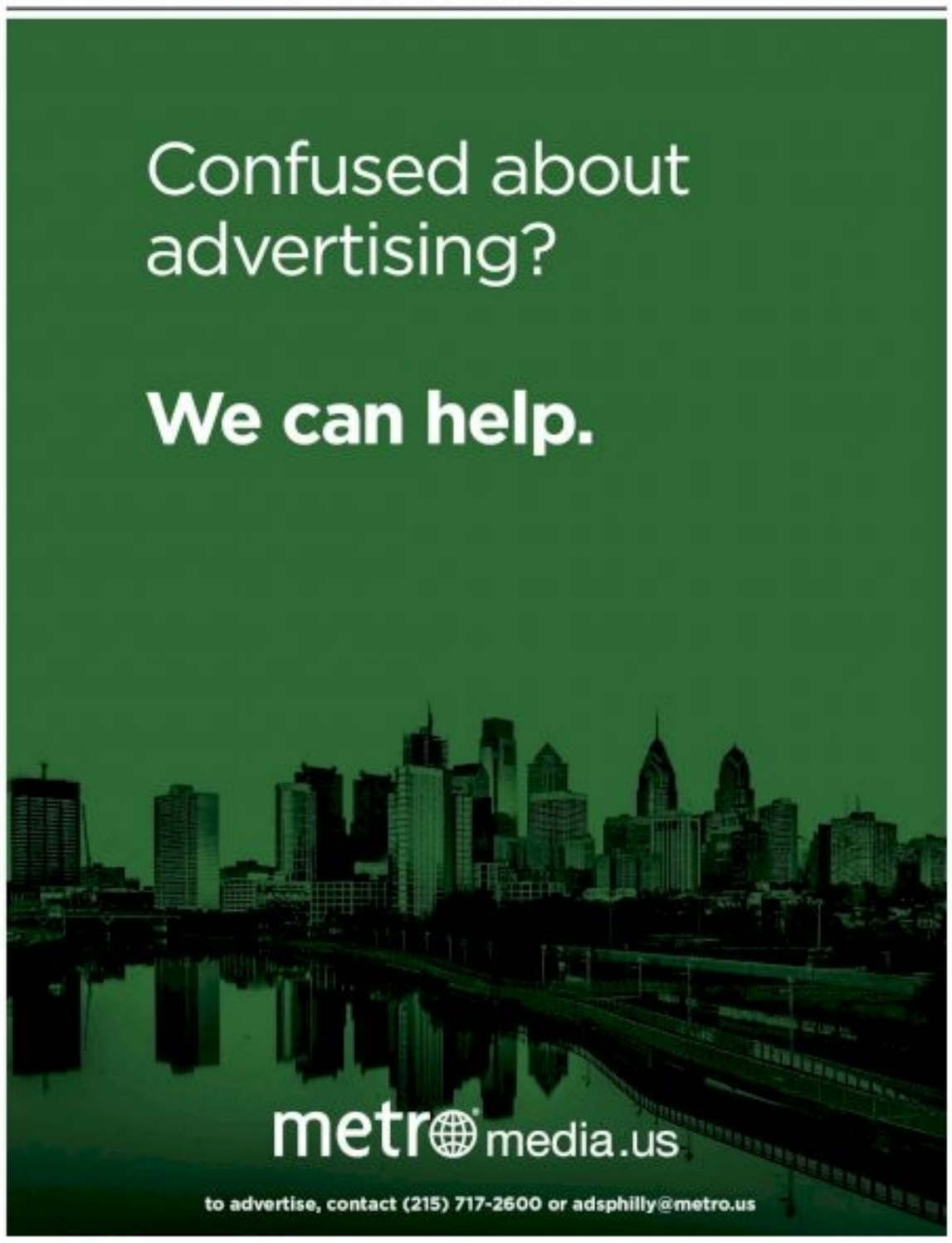

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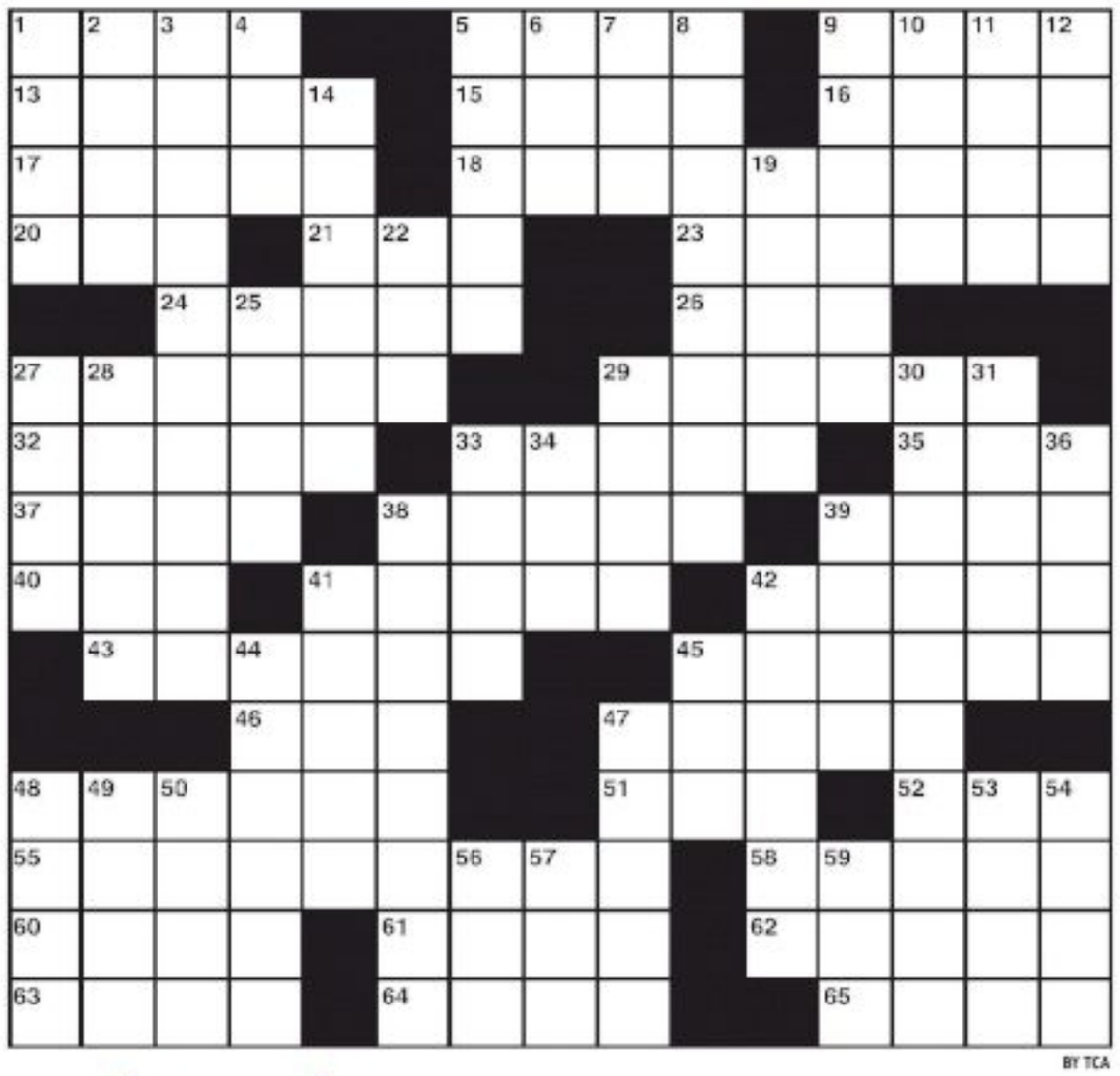
ACROSS
1 Word of disgust
5 Ladder piece
9 Take five
13 Coffee sweetener
15 Aspirin or Nuprin
16 Charlie Chaplin's prop
17 Sudden voltage increase
18 Motorist's expense
20 Faucet
21 Gunfighter Holliday
23 Business alliance
24 Two strokes under par
26 Big __; fast-food burger
27 __ over; delivered
29 Slyness
32 Sanctuary table
33 Facial feature
35 __-jongg
37 Skinny
38 QB tackles
39 Youthful
40 Farm bird
41 Line of travel
42 Ice cream portion
43 Kathmandu resident
45 Pure; virtuous
46 Get __ of; throw away
47 Wanders
48 St. Francis' home
51 Pen contents
52 "What'll __"; Irving Berlin song
55 Unfinished business
58 Diminished
60 Pea casings
61 Chess piece
62 Coleslaw, e.g.
63 Stick around
64 Convince
65 Baseball team

DOWN
1 Take a nap
2 Like the sea
3 Fluid made from pine tree resin
4 Droop
5 Nutmeg or paprika
6 The __ Man; "The Wizard of Oz" role
7 Golfer Ernie
8 Falls fast & straight down
9 Rarely seen
10 Powdered drink
11 A single time
12 One's equal
14 Account book
19 Within __; handy
22 Antique
25 West
27 Corned beef concoction
28 Tim or Woody
29 Nobleman
30 Out of the question
31 Fortune-teller's deck
33 Hawaiian island
34 Next month: abbr.
36 Excessive publicity
38 Army personnel
39 Illegal way to make money
41 Elevate
42 Malt shop orders
44 Persnickety
45 Swindle
47 Dangerous
48 "Heidi" setting
49 Chimney residue
50 __ pop; soft drink
53 Deceased
54 2:1, e.g.
56 Presently
57 __ 180; flip-flop
59 Forbid entry to



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	B	H	E

Trace a path, using every letter once, to find the hidden phrase. Your path can turn in any direction, but not diagonally.

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T	M	T	I	N	A	C	L	U	V
R	H	I	T	R	C	P	N	U	W
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Exclusive offer: Free $50 VISA gift card!

Take advantage of our new offer at **MetroBet.us/Sugar.**

MATT BURKE

Matt Burke is a veteran sports journalist and the Founder and Editor in Chief of MetroBet.

Smart bettors — and frankly, those who just like money — will take advantage of all of the risk-free betting cash that's out there right now ahead of the start of the NFL and college football seasons. You're likely already familiar with receiving deposit matches, but now MetroBet is doubling down on giving you extra green in your wallet!

MetroBet is currently offering the best deal in Philadelphia sports betting as we will give out free $50 VISA e-gift cards to the first 1,000 people who open an account at **MetroBet.us/Sugar !**

There's no catch here, all you have to do is open an account, make a deposit (where you'll still get a free deposit match), and bet on at least one game. Literally free money!

Here are the three easy steps:

1. Go to **MetroBet.us/Sugar** and enter promo code: **METROBET**

2. Make a deposit and wager a minimum of $25

3. Fill out an easy online form to receive your $50 VISA e-gift card. The form is available here: **metro.us/free50** and at MetroBet.us under the promotions tab.

We expect these free gift cards to go quickly and this promotion is limited to the first 1,000 sign-ups, so act fast! Make today's Eagles–Redskins game interesting!

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION ISTOCK

Example

Here is an example of how the offer at **MetroBet.us/Sugar** could work for you.

If you deposited $100, PlaySugarHouse would match that with $100 and you would instantly have $200 to play with.

Let's say you then bet $25 on the Eagles to cover the -10 spread today, and they did so, you would instantly have $225 in your account.

On top of that, MetroBet would then send you the $50 VISA gift card — meaning you basically made the easiest $175 of your life!

Offer terms

The offer is not available to a player who has or has previously had an account with www.playsugarhouse.com. New users only.

Once your email address has been matched and verified by PlaySugarHouse, MetroBET will email the player a $50 VISA e-gift card within four weeks of form submission.

You may only participate in this promotion once. You must be located in Pennsylvania or New Jersey.

ISTOCK

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CLAIM YOUR

$50 VISA GIFT CARD

WITH CODE

METROBET

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METROBET.US/SUGAR

The first 1,000 people with a deposit and wager minimum of $25

More for YOU.

Make your first deposit with bonus code
METROBET

Because you deserve more!

*Must be physically located in the state of PA or NJ and be 21+ to make a wager.